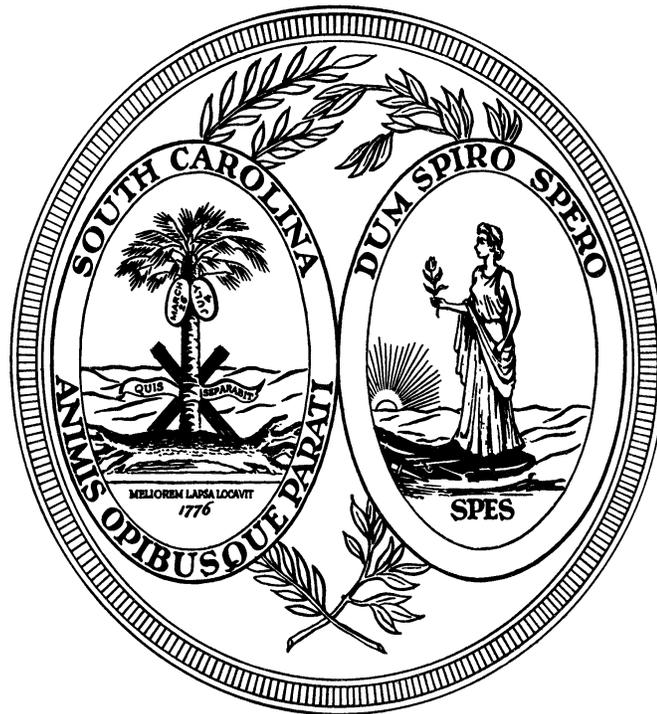


# Survey of Former Family Independence Program Clients:

*Cases Closed During April through September, 1998*



**The South Carolina Department of Social Services  
Division of Program Quality Assurance**

*Seventh (7<sup>th</sup>) Survey Report*

**SURVEY OF FORMER FAMILY INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM CLIENTS:  
CASES CLOSED DURING APRIL THROUGH SEPTEMBER, 1998**

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## Summary

South Carolina completed its seventh survey to monitor the well-being of former clients of the South Carolina Family Independence Program (FI). The survey represented cases closed during the months of April through September, 1998. This sample covered two quarters of closures, whereas previous surveys covered only a single quarter.

Households were randomly selected from FI cases that were closed for any reason during April through September, 1998. Interviews were conducted with 486 former clients by staff from the South Carolina Department of Social Services during the months of May through August, 1999. The response rate was 76%. Most of the interviews were conducted over the telephone, with 70 (14%) conducted in respondents' homes.

Some highlights of the survey results are:

- Of the reasons respondents gave for leaving FI, the most frequent ones related to income from jobs (52%).
- At the time of the interview, 62.1% of the respondents said they had jobs, and were working an average of 40 hours per week at an average wage of \$6.76 per hour. Of all the jobs reported since leaving welfare, over 70% were in service, clerical and sales occupations.
- The five most frequently given reasons for unemployment were: a physical or mental disability, lack of child care, inability to find a job, lack of transportation, and need to stay home to care for somebody with an illness or injury.
- An estimated 89% of the children and 69% of the adults in respondents' families had some form of health insurance coverage, with the majority of these covered by Medicaid. More adults were covered by insurance in this sample than in any previous study. Perceived unmet medical need occurred in 9.5% of the households after leaving welfare.
- Less than half (41%) of the respondents to this survey said that they had a motor vehicle available for their use. The most common transportation among those without a vehicle was to ride with a friend or neighbor, or to borrow a vehicle.
- About 25% of households have had difficulty either finding or paying for child care since leaving FI, and 12.1% had both problems.
- About a third of the households had problems making timely payments for housing and utilities after leaving welfare. Further, former clients have more problems after leaving public assistance with buying food and getting medical care than while they were on the program.
- 12.6% of households in this survey said there was a time when they had no way to buy food after leaving welfare. The two most frequently given reasons for this were not enough or no food stamps, or, problems in budgeting that left too little money to pay for food.
- Three-quarters of the respondents felt their lives were better than when they were on welfare. At the same time, over half of the sample indicated uncertainty about maintaining their financial independence. Those who left during April to June, 1998 were more optimistic than those who left during July to September, 1998.
- For the first time, there were noticeable improvements in awareness of transitional benefits. This was true regardless of whether the respondent was eligible for the benefit. Survey respondents also reported increases in the use of transitional child care and adult transitional Medicaid.

## Overview

South Carolina implemented its reformed statewide welfare program during 1996. The transformation of the AFDC program (Aid to Families with Dependent Children) began January 1, 1996 with the start of new job training and education components for adult AFDC recipients. On October 1, 1996, the full program began, and AFDC became the Family Independence (FI) Program, South Carolina's version of TANF, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. The new program is a fundamental change in welfare, from one of distributing money to the poor to one that helps clients to become independent, productive members of South Carolina's workforce. The change has challenged both the clients of the program and the South Carolina Department of Social Services (DSS).

The Family Independence Program attempts to remove barriers to self-sufficiency for as many clients as possible, making available transportation, child care assistance, health care coverage, job training, and food stamps for those clients who would not otherwise be job-ready. After leaving the program, most lower-income families are eligible to receive food stamps and Medicaid coverage for children, depending on need and income level. Clients who leave the program to take a job may also receive Medicaid coverage for themselves and assistance to purchase child care.

Under the new plan, households may receive a maximum of 24 months of economic assistance during a ten-year period, and a maximum of 60 months over an individual's lifetime. In exchange for money and other benefits, able-bodied adults take steps toward supporting themselves and their families from employment instead of public assistance. Unlike the AFDC program, spouses are eligible to participate in FI.

The consequence of non-compliance with FI requirements is stricter under the new program. This is termed "full-family sanctioning." Under the old welfare program, if an adult failed to complete a requirement, assistance would be withheld from that adult while other members of the family continued to receive benefits. Now, the sanction for non-compliance is termination of benefits for an entire family. The sanction is intended to motivate adults to stick with the often difficult task of finding and keeping employment. However, some families still leave the program due to sanctions.

As part of a larger plan for monitoring and evaluating the Family Independence Program, DSS implemented the first in a series of surveys during the summer of 1997 to learn about the fates of former clients. That study assessed how well former clients were supporting themselves and their families after their FI cases were closed during October, November, and December 1996. The study was repeated on new samples of clients who left FI during 1997 and 1998.

This report presents results from the seventh survey of a sample of closed cases. Data collection was carried out from May 10 to August 20, 1999 by DSS' Division of Program Quality Assurance.

Several criteria determined who was to be surveyed during this study. A family's case had to have been closed at some point between April 1, 1998, and September 30, 1998. Note that this sample covered two quarters of closures unlike previous surveys that sampled only from a single quarter of closures. At least one of the household's members was an able-bodied adult required to seek employment while on FI. The family could not have returned to FI since their case was closed last year.

From the second quarter of 1998, 5,385 families met these eligibility criteria, and from the third quarter, 5,045 were eligible. One out of every sixteen households was randomly selected for the survey, yielding a total sample size of 652 families (336 from the second quarter and 316 from the third quarter of closures). Interviews were conducted with former clients from 486 households for a

response rate of 76.3%, excluding 15 households found to be ineligible for the survey. Response rates were slightly different for the two closure period strata, 77.6% for the second quarter (256 interviews from 330 eligible) and 74.9% for the third quarter (230 interviews from 307 eligible). The refusal rate was 9.8% (63/637). The reader is referred to the Technical Addendum in this report for more details on the survey methodology and an analysis of non-respondents.

### DSS Reasons for Case Closure

The table below compares closures during the second and third quarters of 1998 with closures from each of the first two years of FI:

Types of Case Closure for Respondent Households

	Closure Period			
	FI Year 1 n=1606	FI Year 2 n=1296	Apr-Jun '98 n=256	Jul-Sep '98 n=230
Earned Income	43.5%	50.9%	58.2%	51.7%
Sanctioned	24.9%	23.0%	19.1%	21.7%
Procedural	11.5%	7.7%	8.6%	6.5%
Voluntary Withdrawal	12.7%	9.0%	9.8%	5.7%
Ineligible	6.0%	5.5%	3.9%	4.8%
Unearned Income	1.2%	1.4%	0.4%	1.3%
Time Limit	0.0%	2.2%	0.0%	8.3%
Application Opened in Error	0.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%

Note: Figures in the "FI Year 1" and "FI Year 2" columns were weighted to account for disproportionate sampling across the sampled closure periods. "FI Year 1" covers closures between Oct. 1, 1996, and Sept. 30, 1997. "FI Year 2" covers the period from Oct. 1, 1997 to Sept. 30, 1998. The "FI Year 2" column includes information from the two quarters represented in the rightmost two columns.

It seems there is some kind of seasonality at work that affects closures during April to June. There was a higher number of households leaving FI due to earned income during April to June, 1998. The same period in 1997 showed a high level of persons leaving due to earned income (53.7%) relative to the first twelve months of FI.

The proportion of sanctioned families has been fairly steady over the life of the FI program, around a quarter of all closures.

Procedural violations and voluntary withdrawals went down in the second year of FI, but both reductions could have more to do with better casework than with traits of the clients (i.e. FI caseworkers were doing a better job of educating clients about FI requirements and deadlines, and were more careful to find out why clients left FI).

### Reasons Given by Respondents for Leaving the Family Independence Program

Respondents were asked, "What do you say are the reasons that you no longer get welfare?" Multiple reasons could have been mentioned. Refer to the next page.

## Self-Reported Reasons for Leaving the Family Independence Program

RESPONDENT REASONS	Percent Mentioning			
	FI Year 1	FI Year 2	Apr-Jun '98	Jul-Sep '98
Got a job	47%	45%	48%	41%
Earned too much money	19%	21%	23%	21%
Simply did not want to be on FI	12%	12%	14%	11%
Requirements too much hassle	10%	9%	10%	10%
Could not complete training/education	3%	5%	7%	3%
Exceeded 24 month eligibility for benefits	0%	5%	4%	13%
Not willing to go through training/education	5%	4%	4%	3%
No transportation - could not meet FI requirements	4%	4%	3%	1%
Missed FI appointment	1%	3%	5%	4%
Child support income pushed income over the limit	2%	3%	2%	3%
Other Reasons	3%	3%	1%	1%
Late in supplying information	3%	3%	3%	2%
Don't know why case was closed	1%	2%	4%	2%
Change in household members, lost eligibility	4%	2%	2%	1%
Wanted child support without DSS involvement	4%	2%	3%	2%
Partner/Husband/Father of children in home	2%	2%	2%	2%
Left for reasons of pride/dignity	3%	2%	3%	2%
FI did not provide enough money	1%	2%	4%	3%
No child care - could not meet FI requirements	2%	2%	2%	2%
Saving eligibility for future	0%	2%	4%	1%
Too much money, not from jobs	2%	2%	0%	2%
Didn't want to give information	2%	2%	1%	2%
Got training/education then got job	1%	1%	3%	1%
Problem with caseworker	1%	1%	2%	1%
Moved out of state	1%	1%	0%	1%
Considers self unable to work	1%	1%	1%	0%
Unwilling/unable to identify father of children	1%	1%	0%	0%
Could not do/Did not like job	1%	1%	1%	1%
Family problems	0%	1%	0%	1%
Spouse/partner now working	0%	0%	0%	0%
DSS did not tell that something needed to be done	0%	0%	0%	0%
Non-cash resources over limit	0%	0%	0%	0%
Got transportation, then able to get job	0%	0%	0%	0%
FI helped get needed child care	0%	0%	0%	0%

\* The table reflects respondents' opinions that do not necessarily relate to reasons recorded by the Family Independence Program when respondents' cases were closed. Numbers of respondents for each of the sample percentage columns are: "FI Year 1", 1,606; "FI Year 2", 1,296; "Apr-Jun '98", 256; "Jul-Sep '98", 230. "Percent Mention" is the number of respondents who reported a reason, divided by the number of respondents, then multiplied by 100. Respondents could have given more than one reason. "FI Year 1" and "FI Year 2" are each based on the results of four samples of leavers for the first (Oct. 1 1996 to Sept 30 1997) and second 12 months of FI (Oct. 1 1997 to Sept. 30 1998), respectively, weighted for disproportionate sampling. Percentages in shaded cells within a row are statistically different from one another at  $p < .05$  under z-tests for differences in proportions. Some cells with 0% were selected by less than 1% of respondents.

The pattern of reasons has been fairly stable over 24 months of case closures. Time limits did not begin until October 1998, so that no respondent would have given that reason during year 1 of the program. More clients left FI to avoid DSS' involvement in child support during year 1. Slightly more respondents said they left during year 2 because they missed an appointment or they could not complete other program requirements. And, a few more households left FI in year 1 than year 2 because of a change in household members' eligibility.

## How Well Are Former Family Independence Program Clients Doing?

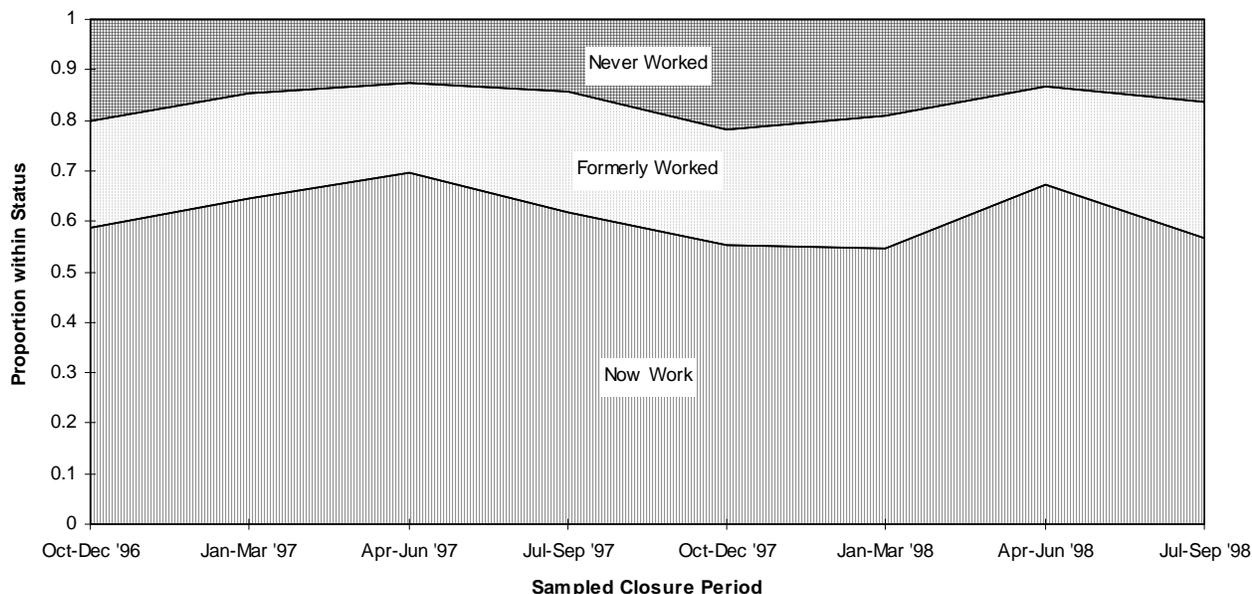
### Employment since Leaving the Family Independence Program

302 (62.1%) of the respondents were employed at the time of the latest interviews (67.2% for cases closed Apr-Jun '98 and 56.5% closed Jul-Sep '98). There likely is some kind of seasonality that affects this pattern: clients who leave in the spring and summer tend to be employed at a higher rate and be employed at the time of the interview. The table and chart below compare work status of respondents from each of the eight samples that were surveyed to-date.

Work Status Reported at Time of Interview - Eight Closure Periods

Status	Jul-Sep '98 n=230	Apr-Jun '98 n=256	Jan-Mar '98 n=384	Oct-Dec '97 n=429	July-Sep '97 n=403	Apr-Jun '97 n=391	Jan-Mar '97 n=395	Oct-Dec '96 n=411
Now Work	56.5%	67.2%	54.7%	55.2%	61.8%	69.6%	64.6%	58.6%
Worked	27.0%	19.5%	26.0%	23.1%	23.8%	17.9%	20.8%	21.2%
Never Worked	16.5%	13.3%	19.3%	21.7%	14.4%	12.5%	14.7%	20.2%

Respondents' Work Status during Each of the Eight Closure Periods



The proportion of former clients who had jobs at some time since leaving FI (the bottom two bands of the chart) climbed steadily from the first period to the third, at which point it leveled off before dropping again in the fifth sample. The pattern could be related either to different types of clients leaving welfare during different quarters, or to prospects for employment at different seasons of the year, or both.

Of the 302 employed respondents from this latest survey, the average person worked 40.0 hours per week (including hours at second jobs) at an average pay of \$6.76 per hour. The comparable figures for the previous survey were 37.5 hours per week and \$7.10 per hour. Of the current sample, 85.1% (257/302) were working 30 or more hours per week for an average \$6.77 per hour, and 12.5% worked 15 to 29 hours per week at an average \$6.19 per hour.

Job descriptions reported by respondents to the latest survey were coded into general categories and further into more detailed subcategories for those who had worked at any time since leaving welfare. The table on the next page shows the types of jobs held by 408 respondents since leaving the FI program.

As in past samples, most of the jobs reported were either in service, or clerical and sales occupations (72.4%). These tend to be relatively low-paying jobs such as waitressing, janitorial work, cashiering, and so on. The table below compares the percentages of job descriptions mentioned by respondents over eight quarters of surveys:

Respondents Employed Since Leaving Welfare -- Percent within Occupational Categories by Closure Period

Occupational Category	Closure Period						
	Oct-Dec '96	Jan-Mar '97	Apr-Jun '97	Jul-Sep '97	Oct-Dec '97	Jan-Mar '98	Apr-Sep '98
Service Occupations	35.2%	41.3%	45.7%	46.4%	36.2%	37.9%	40.4%
Clerical & Sales Occupations	28.2%	31.5%	27.4%	25.5%	35.4%	25.0%	32.0%
Professional/Technical/Managerial	6.4%	5.5%	4.5%	7.4%	3.0%	9.2%	9.9%
Benchwork	6.1%	5.5%	3.7%	4.3%	5.8%	7.5%	2.7%
Miscellaneous	7.5%	9.1%	6.1%	4.1%	6.4%	7.2%	6.3%
Processing	3.4%	2.8%	3.5%	4.3%	2.2%	5.7%	3.2%
Structural Work	3.9%	1.2%	2.7%	1.3%	2.2%	3.2%	2.1%
Machine Trades	7.3%	2.4%	6.4%	6.1%	6.6%	3.2%	2.7%
Agricultural, Fishery, & Forestry	2.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.5%	2.2%	1.1%	0.6%

Note: The denominator for each percentage is the number of codeable job descriptions. A few respondents had second jobs that were included in the coding. The most recent survey (Apr-Sep '98) covered six months of closures rather than three months.

Generally, each survey showed a combined percentage of over 70% for service, clerical and sales occupations. Two closure periods showed anomalous levels, Oct-Dec '96 and Jan-Mar '98, when less than 65% of the job descriptions were of this type. The decrease in these types of jobs for those two samples seems to have been due to small shifts into other kinds of jobs. This phenomenon does not seem due to seasonality, since the lower rates were observed for different closure periods.

Categorization of Jobs for 408 Respondents Employed Since Leaving Welfare \*

Major Category/Subcategory	Number	Percent Total
<b>Service Occupations</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>40.4%</b>
Food & Beverage Preparation	75	
Lodging & Related Service	43	
Miscellaneous Personal Service	38	
Building & Related Service	12	
Protective Service	9	
Domestic Service	8	
Apparel & Furnishings	5	
Barbering, Cosmetology	1	
Amusement & Recreation	1	
<b>Clerical &amp; Sales Occupations</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>32.0%</b>
Computing & Account-Recording	82	
Information & Message Distribution	19	
Miscellaneous Clerical	12	
Sales, Miscellaneous	9	
Sales, Consumable Commodities	9	
Sales, Commodities	4	
Production & Stock Clerks	9	
Stenography, Typing, Filing	7	
Sales, Services	1	
<b>Professional/Technical/Managerial</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>9.9%</b>
Managers & Officials	16	
Education	14	
Medicine & Health	7	
Miscellaneous Professional/Technical/Managerial	7	
Administrative Specializations	2	
Architectural, Engineering & Surveying	1	
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>6.3%</b>
Packaging, Materials Handling	14	
Motor Freight	4	
Transportation	8	
Production & Distribution of Utilities	2	
Amusement & Recreation	2	
<b>Processing</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>3.2%</b>
Processing of Food, Tobacco & Related Products	6	
Processing of Chemicals, Plastics, Synthetics, Rubber, Paint	4	
Processing of Assorted & Miscellaneous Materials	3	
Processing of Leather, Textiles & Related Products	2	
<b>Benchwork</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2.7%</b>
Fabrication & Repair of Textile, Leather & Related Products	8	
Assembly & Repair of Electrical Equipment	3	
Fabrication & Repair of Plastics, Synthetics, Rubber	1	
Fabrication, Assembly, and Repair of Metal Products	1	
<b>Machine Trades</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>2.7%</b>
Textile	5	
Assorted & Miscellaneous Materials	5	
Metal Machining	2	
Printing Occupations	1	
<b>Structural Work</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2.1%</b>
Construction	7	
Electrical Assembling, Installing, & Repairing	3	
<b>Agricultural, Fishery, &amp; Forestry</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0.6%</b>
Miscellaneous Agricultural & Related Occupations	2	
Animal Farming	1	

\* Note: 408 primary jobs and 69 second jobs were submitted for coding. One job could not be coded. "Percent Total" is the percent falling into a major category relative to the 475 job descriptions coded.

## Reasons Given for Current Unemployment by 184 Respondents

Cases Closed during April to September, 1998

Reason Given	Had a Job Since Leaving Public Assistance?	
	No Job, n=72	Had Job, n=112
Physical/ Mental Illness or injury(self) <i>Percent all reasons in column</i>	21 23.1%	21 14.8%
Lack child care <i>Percent all reasons in column</i>	11 12.1%	17 12.0%
Can't find a job <i>Percent all reasons in column</i>	13 14.3%	12 8.5%
Have no transportation <i>Percent all reasons in column</i>	11 12.1%	13 9.2%
Laid off from job <i>Percent all reasons in column</i>	0 0.0%	18 12.7%
Fired from job <i>Percent all reasons in column</i>	0 0.0%	17 12.0%
Illness or injury (take care of other person) <i>Percent all reasons in column</i>	9 9.9%	7 4.9%
Want to stay home with children <i>Percent all reasons in column</i>	9 9.9%	4 2.8%
Other Reason <i>Percent all reasons in column</i>	1 1.1%	11 7.7%
Quit job <i>Percent all reasons in column</i>	0 0.0%	10 7.0%
Can't find job that pays enough <i>Percent all reasons in column</i>	7 7.7%	1 0.7%
Currently or recently pregnant <i>Percent all reasons in column</i>	2 2.2%	4 2.8%
In full or part time education/training <i>Percent all reasons in column</i>	3 3.3%	2 1.4%
Don't have skills <i>Percent all reasons in column</i>	4 4.4%	1 0.7%
Felt disrespect from coworkers or boss <i>Percent all reasons in column</i>	0 0.0%	3 2.1%
Lose benefits if working/Delay restart benefits <i>Percent all reasons in column</i>	0 0.0%	1 0.7%
Could not get to job on time <i>Percent all reasons in column</i>	0 0.0%	0 0.0%

The table on the previous page summarizes the reasons for unemployment given by the most recent respondents at the time of the interview. The table is ordered from the most to the least frequently mentioned reasons. Respondents could give more than one answer, so the numbers in the cells will not sum to the numbers of respondents. The five most frequently given reasons were: a physical or mental disability, lack of child care, inability to find a job, lack of transportation, and need to stay home to care for somebody with an illness or injury.

Although the same six or so explanations were mentioned frequently at each survey, the first and second most mentioned reasons varied. During the first quarter of the FI program (Oct-Dec '96), unemployed leavers most often said they lacked child care or could not find a job. Unemployed respondents in the second quarter of FI (Jan-Mar '97) also said they could not find child care, but among that group, transportation was a more widespread problem than was finding a job. Unemployed leavers began to mention personal illness or disability as a frequent barrier beginning with the third (Apr-Jun '97) sample, with fully a quarter of the reasons in the fifth survey being a health barrier.

Reasons for Unemployment as a Percentage of All Reasons Given  
by Closure Period

REASON	Closure Period						
	Oct-Dec '96	Jan-Mar '97	Apr-Jun '97	Jul-Sep '97	Oct-Dec '97	Jan-Mar '98	Apr-Sep '98
Physical/ Mental Illness or injury(self)	10.9%	9.1%	17.6%	17.1%	25.0%	15.6%	18.0%
Have no transportation	12.2%	18.7%	11.5%	14.4%	10.1%	16.9%	10.3%
Lack child care	17.2%	17.6%	13.9%	12.3%	8.3%	11.3%	12.0%
Can't find a job	16.3%	11.8%	9.7%	12.3%	7.5%	11.7%	10.7%
Laid off from job	8.6%	9.1%	9.7%	7.5%	11.0%	6.1%	7.7%
Illness or injury (take care of other person)	7.2%	8.0%	4.2%	3.7%	3.5%	6.9%	6.9%
Other Reason	5.9%	4.3%	3.6%	7.5%	5.7%	6.1%	5.2%
Want to stay home with children	4.5%	4.3%	4.8%	3.2%	4.8%	4.8%	5.6%
Currently or recently pregnant	3.2%	3.2%	3.0%	7.0%	8.3%	3.5%	2.6%
Can't find job that pays enough	3.2%	5.3%	3.0%	2.7%	5.3%	3.9%	3.4%
Fired from job	3.2%	1.1%	3.6%	4.3%	2.2%	4.3%	7.3%
Don't have skills	3.2%	1.6%	1.2%	2.7%	2.2%	3.9%	2.1%

Sixty-seven households included a spouse, partner, or significant other at the time of the most recent survey. Of these 67 partners, 45 (67.2%) were working at the time of the survey. This rate is close to that observed for the previous survey (65.0%). In 22 households with a spouse or partner, both the respondent and the partner were employed at the time of the survey. In another 23 households, the partner had a job but the respondent did not. Twelve respondents said they had a job while their partners did not, and in ten homes, neither the respondent nor the partner was employed at the time of the interview.

### Medical Insurance Coverage

Very few households reported unmet medical need for the period when receiving public assistance. 1.8% said they only had unmet need while on welfare, and 0.5% said unmet need occurred both during and after leaving the program (a total of 2.3% while on welfare).

More households, 9.5% (7.4%+2.1%), reported being unable to get care since leaving welfare (compared to the time during welfare, 3.7%).

	Never	Yes			
		Before Welfare	During Welfare	After Welfare	During & After
Did somebody in your home ever get sick or hurt when you could not get medical care? <i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	429 88.3%	3 0.6%	8 1.6%	36 7.4%	10 2.1%

In each survey of closed cases, the pattern has been for former clients to report more unmet medical need after leaving welfare. After the first quarter of closures, the amount of unmet need has been at or slightly below 10%.

#### Percent Unable to Get Medical Care after Welfare

Oct-Dec '96 n=411	Jan-Mar '97 n=395	Apr-Jun '97 n=391	July-Sep '97 n=403	Oct-Dec '97 n=429	Jan-Mar '98 n=384	Apr-Sep '98 n=486
16.3%	10.1%	10.0%	8.2%	8.2%	7.8%	9.5%

At the time of the latest interviews, 50 households (10.3%) lacked health insurance altogether. At least some household members were covered in 436 (89.7%) households. Of the households with at least some coverage, 9.2% (40/436) reported being unable to get care since leaving welfare. Among the uninsured, twelve percent had unmet medical need after welfare.

#### Percent Adults and Children Covered by Health Insurance

	Closure Period						
	Oct-Dec '96	Jan-Mar '97	Apr-Jun '97	Jul-Sep '97	Oct-Dec '97	Jan-Mar '98	Apr-Sep '98
Children	81.2%	81.3%	84.0%	90.8%	84.0%	84.6%	88.7%
Adults	46.4%	35.3%	49.7%	52.3%	51.7%	44.6%	68.5%

There were 1,082 children reported to be living with respondents during this most recent survey, 960 (88.7%) of whom were said to be covered by some form of insurance. With the exception of results from the Jul-Sep '97 sample, this has been the characteristic level of coverage among the children of former clients.

A lower proportion of the estimated 647 adults were covered by insurance, 68.5%, compared to their children. However, this is the highest level of adult coverage noted to-date.

Here are more details for households that had insurance coverage in the latest sample. Note that the unit for the following table is the individual, not the household.

#### Types of Coverage and Who Is Covered for 436 Households with Health Insurance

	Number Covered	
	Children	Adults
Medicaid	876	358
Private Insurance	82	77
Medicare	0	8
CHAMPUS, Military	1	1
Totals	959	444

Respondents with private insurance were asked to say who paid for their premiums. Of the 49 respondents who said an employer paid for coverage, twenty respondents (41%) co-paid for the premiums. An absent parent contributed to coverage in 9 households.

**Who Pays Premiums for 69 Households with Private Insurance?**

More than one source of payment was possible

Pays All or Part	Number Households
Employer	49
Self	31
Absent parent	9
Other	2

**Transportation**

Two hundred and one (41.4%) of the most recent respondents had a car, truck or motorcycle available to use. The proportion with transportation changed very little over the first two years of closures from the FI Program:

**Percent with a Vehicle**

Oct '96 to Sep '97 n=1,606	Oct '97 to Sep '98 n=1,296
44.2%	42.5%

Seven of the 16 respondents who had a vehicle repossessed since leaving welfare said that they had a vehicle available for their use at the time of the latest interviews.

Those who did not have a vehicle used the following forms of transportation (multiple forms of transportation may have been mentioned by an individual):

**Transportation Used by Those With No Vehicle at Home  
Closure during April-September 1998**

	# Using
Ride w/ friend/neighbor	175
Bus	61
Borrow vehicle	48
Walk	30
Taxi	24
Other	5
Bicycle	2

Two hundred and twenty-three respondents rode with someone else or borrowed a vehicle when they needed to go somewhere (7 respondents both got rides and borrowed vehicles). Of these, 135 respondents paid an average of \$17.81 per week toward the costs of operating the vehicles. Sixty-six of 72 people who used public transportation (bus and/or taxi) paid an average of \$19.26 for fares per week.

### Sources and Use of Child Care

Four hundred and seventy-four of the 486 respondents who left welfare during April to September, 1998 still had children in the home at the time of the interview. Two hundred and forty-nine households (51.2% of 486) had preschoolers, 363 (74.7%) had school-aged children, and 138 (28.4%) had both preschool- and school-aged children.

Respondents were asked about obtaining child care, whether they could find care and whether they could pay for it. If they could not get it, respondents were questioned about when the unmet need occurred. This table shows how people answered in the latest interviews:

	Never	YES			
		Before Welfare	During Welfare	After Welfare	During & After
Have you ever needed a regular baby sitter or child care service but could not <u>pay</u> for it?	366	5	22	57	36
<i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	75.3%	1.0%	4.5%	11.7%	7.4%
Have you ever needed a regular baby sitter or child care service but could not <u>find</u> it?	367	4	28	47	40
<i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	75.5%	0.8%	5.8%	9.7%	8.2%

Note: Shaded cells within a row are significantly different from one another at  $p < .05$ , McNemar's test for correlated proportions.

More families had a problem with child care after leaving welfare than while on the program.

However, more than twice as many households had a problem paying for child care after leaving welfare as had problems while on FI (4.5% during welfare compared to 11.7%). This disparity seems due to a decrease in the number of families reporting the problem while on welfare rather than an increase in problems after leaving the program.

#### Percent Having a Problem Paying for Child Care: During versus After Welfare

Closure Period	During Welfare	After Welfare
Jan-Mar '97	12.2%	10.9%
Apr-Jun '97	9.2%	10.0%
Jul-Sep '97	11.4%	9.2%
Oct-Dec '97	7.5%	10.7%
Jan-Mar '98	7.3%	9.9%
Apr-Sep '98	4.5%	11.7%

Note: The percentages exclude households that had a problem both while on public assistance and after assistance.

About 25% of households had some kind of difficulty regarding child care (finding or paying for it) since leaving FI during April through September, 1998. Fifty-nine families (12.1% overall) had both problems, affording and finding care, after leaving FI.

A much higher proportion of the parents with preschoolers (161/249 or 67.1%) had someone to look after their children than did parents of older children (120/363 or 33.1%), a pattern that occurred in prior samples. Of the 156 employed respondents who had preschoolers, 136 (89.1%) had someone else to look after them. One hundred and one of 232 (43.5%) employed parents with school-aged children used child care for them.

#### Child Care Providers by Reported Use, Age of Children, and Cost

Cases Closed during April-September, 1998

Care Provider	Homes with Preschoolers			Homes with School-Aged Children		
	Number Households		Avg. Paid per Week*	Number Households		Avg. Paid per Week*
	Use	Pay		Use	Pay	
School program	0	0		3	3	\$29
Friend	17	11	\$42	16	10	\$44
Relative	65	30	\$30	54	28	\$26
Church	2	2	\$28	1	1	\$3
Child care center	67	64	\$24	44	42	\$26
Head Start	7	4	\$32	n/a	n/a	n/a
Family/Group Care Home	12	11	\$18	8	3	\$15
Other	2	1	\$77	0	0	\$0
All providers	172	123	\$27	126	87	\$29

\*Note: Averages were computed only for families that said they paid for care. It is possible that more than one child may have been covered by a reported cost. It is also possible that respondent paid only part of the cost of care.

Over half the providers were family members or were friends, as has been the case for prior samples.

Seventy-six families with preschoolers (45.5% of those reporting a provider) said they were getting state assistance for their child care while 52 (43.3%) of those with school-age children got state assistance. In the latest sample, the percentages of households using child care subsidies for their preschool children were considerably higher than those observed in any of the past surveys. Half of the families with school age children used subsidies among cases closed during Apr-Jun '98, though the other part of the sample, Jul-Sep '98 closures, reported a level of use resembling that of cases closed during Jul-Sep '97.

Percent Reporting Subsidy among Those Using Child Care

	Closure Period					
	Apr-Jun '97	Jul-Sep '97	Oct-Dec '97	Jan-Mar '98	Apr-Jun '98	Jul-Sep '98
Pre-School	37.5%	34.4%	35.9%	30.0%	45.2%	45.9%
School Age	30.0%	37.5%	32.4%	27.4%	50.0%	36.7%

**Deprivation: Before, During and After the Family Independence Program**

Of particular concern is whether former clients of the Family Independence Program are worse off without public assistance. A series of questions assessed whether certain problems have occurred in their households and if so, when the problems happened. Answers from the most recent sample are tabulated on the next page. In order to determine the total proportion or number having a given problem during the time while on welfare or after leaving welfare, one must add the contents of the "Both" column to each. "Both" separates out cases reporting a deprivation in both periods. If a deprivation occurred during welfare and continued after leaving public assistance, it is less likely that the deprivation happened because the household left welfare.

As in past surveys, most respondents never experienced the deprivations they were asked about. The most frequently mentioned problems (without regard to time of occurrence) were inability to pay bills, lack of child care, no money for food, and changing residences due to lack of money for housing.

Many people said they had failed to pay bills for utilities or for housing, while fewer actually went without these. Ninety-nine respondents reported that they had ever gone without heat, water, or electricity at some time; and 60 had at least one of these problems since leaving FI. Nineteen had ever made use of a homeless shelter, with 10 reporting shelter use since leaving welfare.

Household Deprivations: Before, During, and After Being on Welfare (FI)

	Never	Before FI	On FI	After FI	Both
Did you ever get behind on a utility bill? <i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	259 53.3%	18 3.7%	48 9.9%	90 18.5%	71 14.6%
Have you ever gotten behind in rent or other payment for housing? <i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	285 58.6%	18 3.7%	40 8.2%	95 19.5%	48 9.9%
Was your telephone ever cut off? <i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	308 63.4%	9 1.9%	59 12.1%	74 15.2%	36 7.4%
Have you ever needed a regular baby sitter or child care service but could not <u>pay</u> for it? <i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	366 75.3%	5 1.0%	22 4.5%	57 11.7%	36 7.4%
Have you ever needed a regular baby sitter or child care service but could not <u>find</u> it? <i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	367 75.5%	4 0.8%	28 5.8%	47 9.7%	40 8.2%
Was there ever a time when you had no way to buy food? <i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	399 82.1%	14 2.9%	12 2.5%	44 9.1%	17 3.5%
Did you ever have to move because you could not pay for housing? <i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	406 83.5%	7 1.4%	31 6.4%	35 7.2%	7 1.4%
Did you ever go without electricity in your home? <i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	418 86.0%	2 0.4%	23 4.7%	29 6.0%	14 2.9%
Did somebody in your home ever get sick or hurt when you could not get medical care? <i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	429 88.3%	3 0.6%	8 1.6%	36 7.4%	10 2.1%
Did your water ever get cut off? <i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	437 89.9%	4 0.8%	21 4.3%	17 3.5%	7 1.4%
Did you ever go without heat in your home? <i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	449 92.4%	2 0.4%	16 3.3%	12 2.5%	7 1.4%
Did a car or truck ever get taken away because you could not keep up payments? <i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	452 93.0%	4 0.8%	14 2.9%	13 2.7%	3 0.6%
Did your children ever have to live with someone else because you could not take care of them? <i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	453 93.2%	3 0.6%	6 1.2%	19 3.9%	5 1.0%
Have you ever needed someone to look after an elderly parent but could not get anyone to do it? <i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	472 97.1%	0 0.0%	5 1.0%	4 0.8%	5 1.0%
Did you have to go to a homeless shelter? <i>Percent of Total Answers</i>	467 96.1%	1 0.2%	8 1.6%	6 1.2%	4 0.8%

Note: Shaded cells within a row are significantly different at  $p < .05$  according to McNemar's test for correlated proportions. Statistics are for cases closed during April to September, 1998.

There were several notable differences between proportions under "During Welfare" and "After Welfare". Over twice as many respondents got behind on utility bills after leaving welfare compared to the period on assistance. This also was the case for housing payments and obtaining child care. More households endured a period without money for food after welfare, 9.1%, than while on welfare, 2.5%. There was more than a fourfold rise in the perceived need for medical care (from 1.6% to 7.4%).

The table below compares the combined samples of cases closed during the first year of FI (October 1996 through September 1997) to those closed in the second year of the program (October 1997

through September 1998). Statistics in the table apply to deprivations experienced after leaving the program. More respondents who left during the second year of the program reported problems finding child care after leaving FI. There were modest, but statistically significant reductions in lack of money to buy food and in unmet medical need during the second year of closures.

**Deprivations Reported after Leaving the Family Independence Program  
by Year of Case Closure**

	FI Closure Year	
	Year 1	Year 2
Did you ever get behind on a utility bill?	31.1%	32.1%
Have you ever gotten behind in rent or other payment for housing?	26.6%	28.7%
Was your telephone ever cut off?	21.5%	23.4%
Have you ever needed a regular baby sitter or child care service but could not <u>pay</u> for it?	19.4%	18.8%
Have you ever needed a regular baby sitter or child care service but could not find it?	12.1%	17.9%
Was there ever a time when you had no way to buy food?	16.9%	14.0%
Did you ever go without electricity in your home?	10.1%	10.8%
Did somebody in your home ever get sick or hurt when you could not get medical care?	11.6%	8.8%
Did you ever have to move because you could not pay for housing?	7.3%	8.8%
Did your water ever get cut off?	6.3%	5.5%
Did you ever go without heat in your home?	5.7%	5.5%
Did your children ever have to live with someone else because you could not take care of them?	3.6%	5.0%
Did a car or truck ever get taken away because you could not keep up payments?	4.3%	3.7%
Have you ever needed someone to look after an elderly parent but could not get anyone to it?	1.3%	2.0%
Did you have to go to a homeless shelter?	1.4%	2.0%

Note: Shaded cells within a row are significantly different from one another at  $p < .05$ , z-test.

Despite a reduction during the second year of closures, a number of respondents still said there were times when they had no money to buy food. Beginning with the survey of cases closed during the first quarter of 1998, a new question was asked to gain more detail about the reasons for this problem. Respondents who said that they could not buy food during a time since leaving welfare were asked, "How did it happen that you did not have money to buy food after you left welfare?" Answers were coded into the categories shown in the table below. More than one reason could have been mentioned so the percentages total to more than 100%.

**Reasons Given for Inability to Buy Food after Leaving Welfare  
by 129 Respondents (Closure Jan-Sep 1998)**

	Percent
Spent all money on things other than food	22.0%
Had a hard time budgeting	21.4%
Food Stamps were not enough to pay for food	19.7%
Lost job or lost job that provided food	19.7%
Had unexpected or emergency expenses	16.8%
Other reasons	16.2%
Quit Food Stamps & realized later still needed them	2.9%
Lost financial help from relative or friend	2.9%
Don't know, can't say	1.7%
Had more people to feed	0.0%

"Spent all money on things other than food" might be considered a variation on the category "Had a hard time budgeting"; if these categories had been combined, the percentage for the combined category would have been 39.3%. Almost a fifth of the respondents said that Food Stamps did not

cover their food costs. "Other reasons" included insufficient income (5 respondents) and interruption or cessation of Food Stamps (8 respondents).

Respondents were asked how they fed their families if they said they ever lacked the money to buy food. The table below summarizes answers from two years of FI closures. By far, the most common recourse was to seek help from friends or relatives (62.5% on welfare, 70.7% after welfare), followed by getting help from a shelter or food pantry (22.2% on welfare, 16.9% after), or a church (14.2% on welfare, 11.6% after welfare). A few respondents said they went hungry.

Recourses Taken by Those Reporting a Time with No Money for Food  
Two Years of Closures Combined

	Time of No Food Money	
	On FI n=236	After FI n=451
Given food or money by friend or relative	62.5%	70.7%
Got meals or food at shelter kitchen or pantry	22.2%	16.9%
Got food or money from church	14.2%	11.6%
Other	7.1%	8.1%
Went hungry	1.6%	2.1%

### Beliefs: Independence

Six items collected respondents' impressions of life in general and their financial independence. Confidence in one's independence was indicated by agreeing that one could buy extras without worrying about every penny, that one hardly worried about money anymore, that one is pretty sure of not needing welfare again, and having more money now, while disagreeing that life was better on welfare and day to day, one is barely making it.

Three quarters (75.7%) said life was not better when they were on welfare. Nearly 60% agreed they had more money than when on welfare, and 56.4% said they buy extras without worrying about every penny. However, 48.7% believe they may end up on welfare again, and 57.4% agreed that they are barely making it from day to day. Only 27.4% hardly ever worried about money.

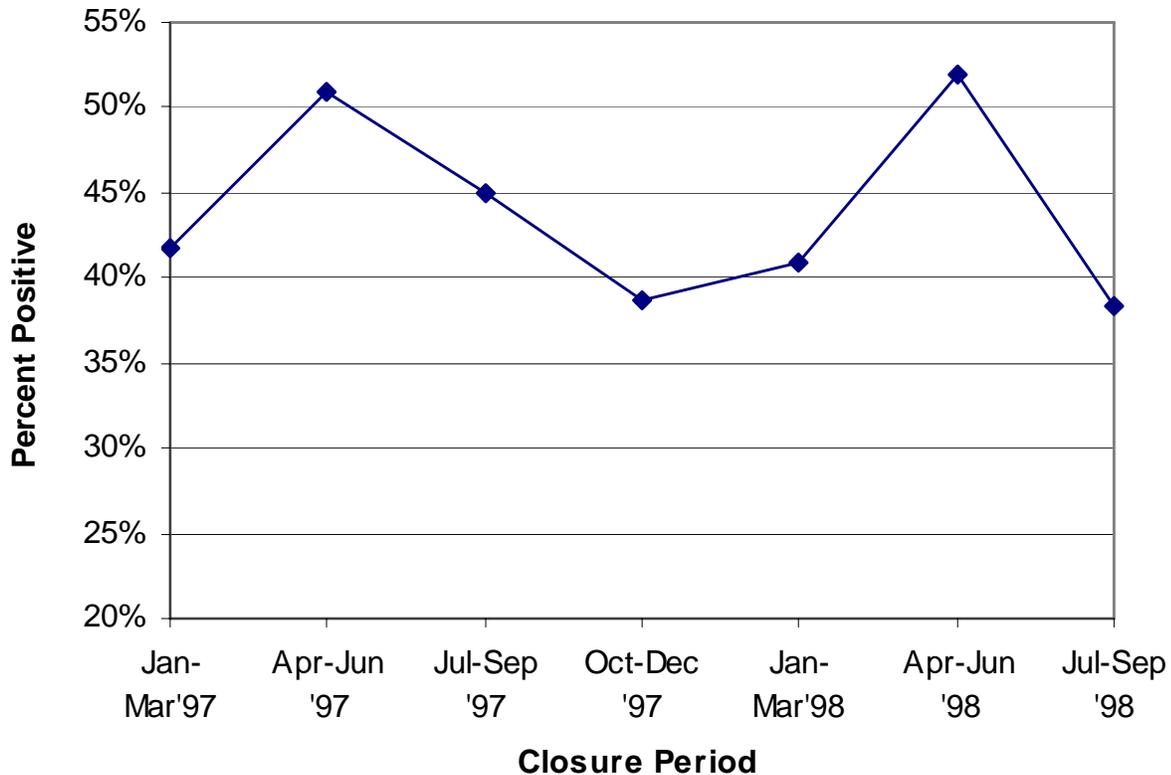
Belief Items Indicating a Sense of Independence - Cases Closed Apr-Sep 1998

	Agree	Disagree	No Answer
Life was better when you were getting welfare <i>Percent of Those Answering</i>	118 24.3%	368 75.7%	
You buy little extras for yourself and your family without worrying about every penny. <i>Percent of Those Answering</i>	274 56.4%	212 43.6%	
You are pretty sure that you will not need to be on welfare again <i>Percent of Those Answering</i>	249 51.3%	236 48.7%	1
You have more money now than when you were getting welfare <i>Percent of Those Answering</i>	289 59.6%	196 40.4%	1
You feel like you are just barely making it from day to day <i>Percent of Those Answering</i>	279 57.4%	207 42.6%	
You hardly ever worry about money anymore <i>Percent of Those Answering</i>	133 27.4%	352 72.6%	1

The six items related to sense of independence were combined to form an index reflecting the number of positive responses by each respondent (i.e. an index score ranging from a low of zero to a high of 6 points). Percentages of each sample with index scores higher than 3 (i.e. positive

about independence) are shown in the chart below for samples surveyed to-date (the questionnaire used for the first survey used a different item set and so that sample is not portrayed in the chart). More than half of the people who left during Apr-Jun were positive about their independence. The optimism of those samples appears to have been unusual, since the proportion was closer to .40 in the other surveys.

**Percent with Independence Index Score of 4 to 6  
by Sample**



**Assistance in the Period after Leaving the Family Independence Program**

**Contributions to Support of Household Members**

Income from jobs is only one source of support for households. Families in transition from welfare to work would likely need and make use of other kinds of support, both public and private in origin. The table below lists the entitlements that respondents said they were using.

The three most frequently reported entitlements were Medicaid, Food Stamps, and the children’s School Lunch Program, regardless of sampled period.

Types of Entitlements Received at Time of Interview  
by at Least One Member of Household

	Report Getting			
	Most Recent Survey		All Surveys	
	Apr-Jun '98	Jul-Sep '98	All	No Job
Medicaid	217	188		
<i>Percent</i>	84.8%	81.7%	78.6%	79.8%
Food Stamps	151	137		
<i>Percent</i>	59.0%	59.6%	59.7%	69.6%
School lunch program	132	119		
<i>Percent</i>	51.6%	51.7%	50.2%	50.6%
WIC Supplemental Nutrition benefits	65	60		
<i>Percent</i>	25.4%	26.1%	26.6%	27.9%
Rent subsidy or public housing	68	45		
<i>Percent</i>	26.6%	19.6%	23.4%	25.5%
Child care assistance	51	46		
<i>Percent</i>	19.9%	20.0%	14.5%	5.3%
SSI, Supplemental Security Income	19	29		
<i>Percent</i>	7.4%	12.6%	11.8%	20.3%
Summer feeding program for children	19	12		
<i>Percent</i>	7.4%	5.2%	7.5%	9.6%
Social Security	15	15		
<i>Percent</i>	5.9%	6.5%	7.8%	12.6%
Fuel assistance	14	9		
<i>Percent</i>	5.5%	3.9%	6.0%	9.3%
Unemployment benefits	3	7		
<i>Percent</i>	1.2%	3.0%	2.0%	3.9%
Military veterans' medical benefits	1	2		
<i>Percent</i>	0.4%	0.9%	0.4%	0.3%
Workers' Compensation	1	2		
<i>Percent</i>	0.4%	0.9%	0.4%	0.5%

Note: The columns under "Most Recent Survey" show statistics for the closure periods at the tops of the columns. Under "All Surveys", data are combined from seven surveys, weighted to account for disproportionate selection across samples (n=2902). "All" shows statistics for two years of closures. "No Job" shows subgroup figures for households where neither the respondent nor a spouse were employed at the time of the interview (n=961).

Over two years of closures, one third of the survey respondents said that neither they nor their spouses were working at the time of the interviews. Presumably, these households would need and be motivated to seek entitlement services to support themselves and their families, so that a higher proportion of this group would use entitlement programs. What is perhaps most remarkable in the table above is that this was true for only a couple of entitlement programs. Specifically, non-job households were more likely to be using food stamps or to have a family member on SSI. In the case of child care assistance, fewer unemployed respondents mentioned this support, though fewer of them would be eligible for the program and fewer would need child care.

Answers to survey questions about individuals' non-job financial support suggest that more of the unemployed are relying on family:

#### Households' Non-Job Support at Time of Interview

	Report Getting			
	Most Recent Survey		All Surveys	
	Apr-Jun '98	Jul-Sep '98	All	No Job
Child support from a child's parent <i>Percent</i>	89 34.8%	67 29.1%	34.6%	36.8%
Help to pay bills from others <u>outside</u> household <i>Percent</i>	48 18.8%	37 16.1%	15.9%	26.3%
Gifts of money from family or friends <i>Percent</i>	18 7.0%	26 11.3%	12.2%	18.4%
Free housing from parent/relative <i>Percent</i>	22 8.6%	23 10.0%	10.7%	15.7%
Help to pay bills from others in household <i>Percent</i>	18 7.0%	22 9.6%	9.4%	14.0%
Retirement or pension fund <i>Percent</i>	3 1.2%	2 0.9%	1.1%	1.3%

Note: The columns under "Most Recent Survey" show statistics for the closure periods at the tops of the columns. Under "All Surveys", data are combined from seven surveys, weighted to account for disproportionate selection across samples (n=2902). "All" shows statistics for two years of closures. "No Job" shows subgroup figures for households where neither the respondent nor a spouse were employed at the time of the interview (n=961).

DSS administrative records show that 17.1% (83/486) of those responding to the latest survey were getting some support from an absent parent at the time of case closure. By the time of the interview, 32.1% of the current respondents said that at least one child was receiving support from an absent parent.

Financial support from one's social network was far from universally reported, though unemployed respondents were more likely to mention these forms of help than the sample as a whole. A quarter of the non-job households got help with paying bills from outside the home and 14% got help from someone in the home. Parents and relatives were more likely to house unemployed respondents.

#### **Awareness of Transitional Benefits: Food Stamps, Medicaid Coverage and Child Care**

Clients who leave the Family Independence Program may continue to receive some transitional benefits even though they no longer receive a monthly check. The range of transitional benefits is conditioned on whether a client leaves to take a job and whether the client's income falls below specified limits. Most clients will not exceed the earned income limits, and are eligible for Food Stamps and 24 months of Medicaid coverage for their children. If a client leaves FI to take a job, then the client may also be covered by Medicaid and receive assistance to pay for child care, up to 24 months of assistance.

Respondents were asked whether they knew about these transitional provisions. The chart on the next page portrays the levels of awareness across two years of FI separately for each type of transitional benefit.

In each survey, more respondents said they knew about Food Stamps and Medicaid coverage for children than about those benefits conditioned on work, adult Medicaid coverage and Transitional Child Care Assistance. In response to the first survey of former clients (cases closed during Oct-Dec '96, results reported in September, 1997), the Department of Social Services took steps to improve awareness of transitional benefits. These steps were implemented starting in late 1997, and it seems that the extra efforts may have paid off. Awareness of benefits was noticeably higher among clients who left FI during the second and third quarters of 1998, particularly for benefits conditioned on leaving FI to take a job.

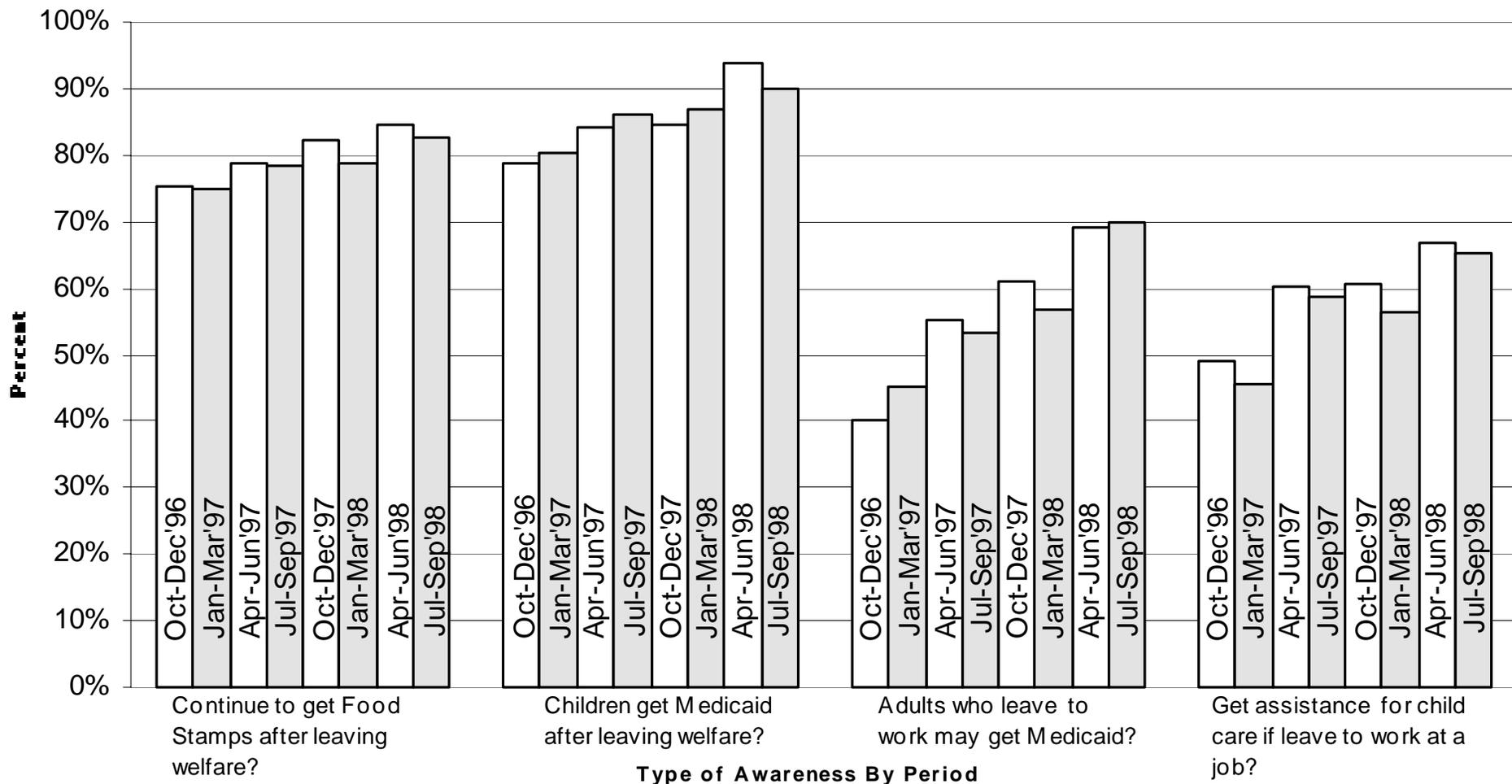
The next table compares awareness according to whether DSS records indicated the respondent left FI to take a job.

Awareness of Provisions for Adult Medicaid and Child Care Assistance  
by whether DSS Knew Respondent Left FI to Work or Not

Closure Period	Adult Medicaid		Child Care	
	Left to Work	Not to Work	Left to Work	Not to Work
Jul-Sep '98	84.0%	55.0%	75.6%	54.1%
Apr-Jun'98	85.9%	45.8%	77.2%	52.3%
Jan-Mar '98	74.1%	43.0%	67.1%	48.1%
Oct-Dec '97	77.1%	46.9%	74.6%	48.2%
Jul-Sep '97	72.2%	33.8%	71.7%	44.9%
Apr-Jun'97	74.8%	32.6%	73.3%	44.8%
Jan-Mar '97	70.7%	26.8%	60.4%	35.1%
Oct-Dec '96	69.9%	25.9%	66.9%	40.3%

For each provision, awareness was higher among those presumably eligible for the benefit. The tendency was for awareness to improve over time regardless of job status. The most dramatic increase was for awareness of adult transitional Medicaid among those who left FI without a job.

## Percentages of Respondents Aware of Transitional Benefits by Closure Period





## Technical Addendum

### Survey Sample Design

Sample design for the seventh and most recent survey differed from that used in the six prior studies. This survey covered case closures from two quarters instead of a single quarter. The first sample of the seven (cases closed Oct-Dec '96) was interviewed 6 to 8 months after the respondents left welfare; by the time of the sixth survey, those respondents were interviewed 11 to 13 months after leaving the FI program. Analysis of the first six surveys suggested the survey results may have been biased by delays in implementing the later surveys. Sampling was done from both the second and third quarters of 1998 as an attempt to reduce the time between case closures and the interview dates for cases closed during July to September, 1998 (it was already too late to reduce the interval for April to June).

The sample size for the most recent survey was designed to be 470 completed interviews, slightly more than the 400 used as a target number in earlier studies. This means that the number of respondents was to be 235 by design for each of the two quarters sampled. For one of the quarters, 235 interviews gives a maximum margin of error of about  $\pm .064$  (95% confidence) for a proportion estimated in this sample. Use of the two quarters combined (i.e. the full 470) would provide a maximum margin of error of  $\pm .045$  (95% confidence). Non-response was predicted to be 25%, and the designed sample size was inflated to 630 to account for this.

The attempt to "catch up" was successful. As intended, the interval between case closure was reduced for cases closed during July to September, 1998. Here are statistics regarding the interval before interviews were completed:

Sample	Number Responding	Months between Closure & Interview		
		Minimum	Maximum	Average
Oct-Dec '96	411	5.4	9.6	7.3
Jan-Mar '97	395	5.4	10.3	8.3
Apr-Jun '97	391	7.5	11.3	9.3
Jul-Sep '97	403	7.0	12.1	9.9
Oct-Dec '97	429	8.5	13.1	10.1
Jan-Mar '98	384	9.4	13.5	11.0
Apr-Jun '98	256	10.3	14.9	12.3
Jul-Sep '98	230	7.3	12.1	9.4

Several criteria defined members of the survey population. These criteria were:

- the Family Independence Program (FI) case was closed for any reason between April 1, 1998, and September 30, 1998;
- at least one household member was required to look for work, or was voluntarily seeking work;
- the household had received at least one check from FI; and,
- the household received no check from FI subsequent to case closure.

Sampling was carried out using DSS administrative data from an extract taken March 31, 1999.

10,430 households met the population criteria. This number divided by 630, the needed sample size, is 16.55, which was rounded down to 16. By this method, it was determined to select 1 in 16 households from the survey population, producing a sample of 652 households. A frequency count from this sample can be inflated by a factor of 16 to estimate the total number of households having the characteristic represented by the frequency among cases closed during April to September, 1998.

A database was created with a record for each of the population's 10,430 households. A randomly generated number was assigned to each record and the file sorted in order of the random numbers from lowest to highest. It would have been acceptable at this point to merely take the first 652 records from the randomly sorted file, since in effect, that would be a simple random sample. However, since computers can only approximate the generation of random numbers, a second "layer" of sampling was applied, a systematic sample of the randomly ordered file. A random number between 1 and 16 was chosen to determine the first selected household, and thereafter, every 16<sup>th</sup> record was selected to choose a total sample of 652 households. Again, the systematic sample by itself would be an acceptable sampling method, but applying it to a randomly ordered file is an extra assurance of random selection. Since a computer program did the entire process, the extra sampling step added very little additional work.

Studies to-date covered two years of closures from the Family Independence Program. This report combined data across surveys to simplify presentation or provide numbers for comparison with the most recent data. The probabilities of selection differed in each sample since the previous samples were drawn to achieve sample sizes of approximately 500 (and 630 for the latest study) rather than selecting proportional to population size. Thus, for calculating statistics that combine data across samples, weights were applied to correct for differing probabilities of selection. The weights used were:

Closure Period	Numbers of Families		Weights		
	Closed	Sampled	FI Year 1	FI Year 2	All Samples
Oct-Dec '96	6,377	532	1.263942765		1.196371041
Jan-Mar '97	5,320	532	1.054441824		0.998070243
Apr-Jun '97	4,296	537	0.843553459		0.798456195
Jul-Sep '97	4,359	545	0.843359984		0.798273062
Oct-Dec '97	3,904	558		0.654933751	0.698291439
Jan-Mar '98	4,179	523		0.747984234	0.797502016
Apr-Jun '98	5,385	336		1.50026574	1.599585791
Jul-Sep '98	5,045	316		1.49449976	1.593438094
Total	38,865	3,879			

When applied to 24 months of samples, the total weighted sample size equals exactly the numbers of cases sampled (3,879). When applied to the respondent numbers of cases (unweighted=2,899), the weighted number of respondents for 24 months was 2,902.

## Data Collection

Data collection was managed by DSS' Division of Program Quality Assurance (PQA). This began on May 10, 1999, and continued until August 20, 1999.

Thirty-two PQA employees carried out the interviews. Twenty-six of these worked nine or more interviews while six employees handled four or fewer cases.

Telephone numbers were available from DSS records for all but 6% of the households (though not all of these numbers were helpful for reaching former clients due to non-working or incorrect numbers). Interviewers were instructed to attempt a telephone interview with each selected household, making at least six attempts to contact an eligible respondent. Failing to make contact by phone, interviewers made at least three attempts to conduct the interview at the sampled home.

If an address or telephone number was wrong, or if clients had moved, interviewers and central office PQA staff attempted to find a correct address or phone number. This was done by checking DSS databases (e.g. food stamps records, child support data, etc.), querying the post office, and in some cases, talking to neighbors at the old address, among other search methods.

The average interview took 16.1 minutes in this latest study.

## Survey Response

The final disposition of the sample was as follows:

	Number	% Sample
Completed interview	486	74.5%
Now on FI/ineligible	15	2.3%
Refusal	63	9.7%
Unable to Contact	88	13.5%

The response rate was  $486/637=76.3\%$  (excluding the 15 ineligible households). Response rates were slightly different for the two closure periods, 77.6% for the second quarter (256 interviews from 330 eligible) and 74.9% for the third quarter (230 interviews from 307 eligible).

## Coding of Respondent Job Descriptions

Respondents described their jobs as part of the interview. The job descriptions were coded into occupational type according to the *Dictionary of Occupational Titles*. Coding was done by a staffperson in DSS' Division of Program Quality Assurance.

## Differences between Respondents and Non-Respondents

Many different household characteristics were analyzed in comparisons of respondents and non-respondents. Where there were differences, these tended to be small.

## DSS Reasons for Case Closure

Reasons for Closure during April to September, 1998  
Respondents vs. Non-Respondents

Reasons	Respondents	Non-Respondents
Sanction	99	43
<i>Proportion Column</i>	0.20	0.28
Earned Income	268	71
<i>Proportion Column</i>	0.55	0.47
Unearned Income	4	1
<i>Proportion Column</i>	0.01	0.01
Voluntary Withdrawal	38	9
<i>Proportion Column</i>	0.08	0.06
Other Ineligibility	21	14
<i>Proportion Column</i>	0.04	0.09
Procedural Violation	37	9
<i>Proportion Column</i>	0.08	0.06
Time Limit Reached	19	4
<i>Proportion Column</i>	0.04	0.03
Total	486	151

Note: Shaded percentages in the same row are significantly different at  $p < .05$ , two-tailed z-test

A higher proportion of the non-respondents left FI due to sanction. There was a significant difference between respondents and non-respondents for the "Other Ineligibility" category. "Other Ineligibility" contains closure codes for "Cannot Locate" and "Non-Resident", among other reasons; most of the difference between the groups are due to difficulties that would have made it hard for interviewers to find former clients.

### Months of Food Stamps Eligibility Following Exit from Welfare

Respondents remained on the food stamps rolls for more months (average=5.4 months) after leaving welfare than did non-respondents (average=4.1 months, t-test,  $p < .001$ ). It is possible that respondents were more needy than non-respondents, and thus required a longer period of transitional food stamps. However, given that more of non-respondents had moved or could not be located, it seems more likely that the difference in time is due to non-respondents moving out of South Carolina and away from this state's food stamp system.

### Sex

97.1% of the respondents were represented by a female head of household. This figure was 96.7% for non-respondents.

### Race/Ethnicity

There were no significant racial or ethnic differences between respondents and non-respondents.

Race/Ethnicity for Closures during April to September, 1998  
Respondents vs. Non-Respondents

Race/Ethnicity	Respondents	Non-Respondents
White <i>Proportion Column</i>	115 <i>0.24</i>	41 <i>0.27</i>
Black <i>Proportion Column</i>	365 <i>0.75</i>	108 <i>0.72</i>
Hispanic <i>Proportion Column</i>	3 <i>0.01</i>	2 <i>0.01</i>
Other <i>Proportion Column</i>	3 <i>0.01</i>	0 <i>0.00</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b>486</b>	<b>151</b>

**Survey Questionnaire**

The questionnaire was designed by Donald Klos, Ph.D., M.P.H., who worked closely with staff of DSS' Office of Program Reform, Evaluation and Research, and the Division of Program Quality Assurance.

The draft form of the instrument was pilot tested in June, 1997, revised in response to the pilot test, and revised again following its use in each of the first two surveys of closed cases. The questionnaire in the latest survey was unchanged from the sixth survey, which added an item regarding lack of money for food and simplified the response formats on other questions.



Interview Label Goes Here

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
Review of Closed Family Independence Cases

Hello, my name is \_\_\_\_\_.

I'd like to speak to (respondent1) {Or (respondent2)}.

(if no respondent there, determine if respondent(s) still live(s) there, and either attempt to arrangement a callback, or if moved, find out where respondent(s) moved).

I'm working with the Department of Social Services. The reason I'm calling is to find out what is happening with people who used to be on welfare.

I'd like to ask you a few questions about how your life is going these days and about your experiences while on welfare. By "welfare", I mean money that you got from the Department of Social Services. This used to be called AFDC or Aid to Families with Dependent Children and is now called the Family Independence Program.

It is up to you whether you answer my questions or not. All information that you give me will be kept secret. There are no right or wrong answers to these questions. And, whatever you do, this will not affect your relationship with the Department of Social Services in any way.

Will you answer a few questions for me?

NO



TERMINATE, thank person,  
R REFUSED SURVEY

YES



CONTINUE

START TIME FOR INTERVIEW: \_\_\_\_\_

**First I'd like to ask about what you do when you need to go somewhere these days.**

**1. How do you get around?** (DO NOT READ ANSWERS CHECK ALL THAT APPLY; PROBE)

a. Have/own vehicle	✓
b. Ride with relative, friend, or neighbor	
c. Borrow vehicle	
d. Bus	
e. Taxi, cab	
f. Walk	
g. Ride Bicycle	
h. Other1 _____	

→ (IF HAVE/OWN, RIDE WITH OR BORROW) **Do you pay anything on gas or upkeep of the vehicle?** (IF YES, ASK) **How much would you guess that you spend on this per week?**  
 \_\_\_\_\_dollars/week

→ (IF USE BUS OR TAXI) **How much would you guess that you spend for public transportation per week?**  
 \_\_\_\_\_dollars/week

Next, I will read a list of things that may have happened to you. Each question can be answered "yes" or "no". If you say "yes", I'll ask when this happened. (CIRCLE NO OR YES, THEN IF YES, USE A CHECK MARK TO SHOW WHEN HAPPENED)

FOR EACH YES ASK: **DID THIS HAPPEN TO YOU WHILE YOU WERE ON WELFARE?** then, **DID THIS HAPPEN AFTER YOU LEFT WELFARE?**

	Happened?		ON welfare	AFTER welfare
	NO	YES		
2. Have you ever gotten behind in rent or other payment for housing?				
3. Did you ever have to move because you could not pay for housing?				
4. Did you ever get behind on a utility bill?				
5. Did you ever go without electricity in your home?				
6. Did you ever go without heat in your home?				
7. Did your water ever get cut off?				
8. Did you have to go to a homeless shelter?				
9. Was your telephone ever cut off?				
10. Did your children ever have to live with someone else because you could not take care of them?				
11. Have you ever needed a regular baby sitter or child care service but could not find it?				
12. Did a car or truck ever get taken away because you could not keep up payments?				
13. Have you ever needed someone to look after an elderly parent but could not get anyone to do it?				
14. Have you ever needed a regular baby sitter or child care service but could not <u>pay</u> for it?				
15. Was somebody in your home ever sick or hurt when you could not get medical care?				
16. Was there ever a time when you had no way to buy food?				
<i>IF DID NOT HAVE MONEY FOR FOOD ON and/or OFF WELFARE ASK <u>FOR EACH PERIOD MENTIONED ABOVE:</u></i>				
17. When you did not have money for food, what did you and your family do? (DO NOT READ RESPONSES; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY; PROBE)			ON welfare	AFTER welfare
Went hungry				
Got meals or food at shelter/food kitchen/food pantry				
Got meals/food/money for food from church				
Were given food or money for food by friends/relatives				
Other _____				

17a. (ASK ONLY IF DID NOT HAVE MONEY FOR FOOD AFTER WELFARE) **How did it happen that you did not have money to buy food after you left welfare?** (DO NOT READ RESPONSES; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY; PROBE)

	✓
Spent all money on things other than food	
Had a hard time budgeting	
Food Stamps were not enough to pay for food	
Quit Food Stamps and realized later still needed them	
Had unexpected or emergency expenses	
Had more people to feed	
Lost financial help from relative or friend	
Lost job that provided food	
Don't know, can't say	
Other 1 _____	
Other 2 _____	

18. **How many school-age children live with you in your home?** (If R asks, "school age" means 5 to 18 years of age)

Number of children \_\_\_\_\_ (IF ZERO, GO TO PAGE 7; Q.21 ELSE DO 18a →)

18a. **How many of these children are attending school?** (IF DURING SUMMER BREAK, ASK: **How many of these children will be attending school in the fall?**)

Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_ (IF NUMBER ATTENDING IS SAME AS THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN HOME, SKIP TO 19 ON NEXT PAGE; ELSE, DO 18b →)

18b. **What about the one(s) who is/are not attending school?**

(ALLOW R TO EXPLAIN. DO NOT READ RESPONSES. IF NECESSARY, PROBE TO FIND OUT NUMBER OF CHILDREN IN EACH CATEGORY BELOW. FOR EACH MENTIONED, ASK) **Did that happen while you were still on welfare or after?**

School Status	Number of Children	
	ON welfare	After welfare
Expelled/Suspended	_____	_____
Graduated	_____	_____
Dropped Out	_____	_____

18c. IF ONE OR MORE DROPOUTS: **Did (this child/any of these) drop out in order to take a job and earn money?** IF YES, WRITE 1 IN THE SPACE BELOW (ASK: **How many children dropped out in order to work?**)

Number children dropped out to work: \_\_\_\_\_ children

19. (IF ONE OR MORE SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN IN HOME) **Does this child/Do these children now work at a job that pays money?** (IF YES AND ONLY 1 CHILD, ENTER 1 BELOW; ELSE ASK) **How many children work at jobs?**

Number of children working \_\_\_\_\_

20. (IF NO CHILDREN IN SCHOOL, SKIP THIS AND GO TO 21) **Do you have some kind of before-school or after-school care for your school age child(ren)?**

NO

YES

20a. **Who provides this care for your child(ren)?** (DO NOT READ ANSWERS; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)  
 (FOR EACH PROVIDER MENTIONED) **Do you pay money for this care?**  
 (IF YES, PAY MONEY, ASK) **About how much do you pay per week?**

	√	Pay Money?		Cost per week
School		NO	YES	\$_____/week
Friend		NO	YES	\$_____/week
Relative		NO	YES	\$_____/week
Church		NO	YES	\$_____/week
Child care center		NO	YES	\$_____/week
In-home, Family or Group Day Care		NO	YES	\$_____/week
Other1_____		NO	YES	\$_____/week

20b. **Do you get help from the state to pay for the child care you mentioned?**

NO

YES

GO TO Q21 ON NEXT PAGE

21. Do you have any children who are too young to attend school?

NO

YES

21a. How many young children do you have? \_\_\_\_\_ pre-school children

21b. Is there somebody or some child care service who will look after this/these child(ren) for you?

NO

YES

21c. Who provides this care for your child(ren)? (DO NOT READ ANSWERS; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

(FOR EACH PROVIDER MENTIONED) Do you pay money for this care?  
(IF YES, PAY MONEY, ASK) About how much do you pay per week?

	√	Pay Money?		Cost per week
School		NO	YES	\$ /week
Friend		NO	YES	\$ /week
Relative		NO	YES	\$ /week
Church		NO	YES	\$ /week
Child care center		NO	YES	\$ /week
In-home, Family or Group Day Care		NO	YES	\$ /week
Head Start Program		NO	YES	\$ /week
Other1		NO	YES	\$ /week

21d. Do you get help from the state to pay for child care?

NO

YES

GO TO NEXT PAGE

Next, I will read several statements to you. None of them will say what you actually think, but for each, I would like you to say whether you agree or disagree with the statement. So if you feel like you agree more than disagree with the statement, then say agree. If you feel like you disagree more, then say disagree. There are no right or wrong answers. **(CIRCLE ANSWER; PROMPT BY REPEATING OPTIONS)**

**The first statement is (READ ITEM). Would you say you agree more or disagree more with the statement?**

- |  |       |          |
|--|-------|----------|
| 22. <b>Life was better when you were getting welfare</b>   | AGREE | DISAGREE |
| 23. <b>You hardly ever worry about money anymore</b>   | AGREE | DISAGREE |
| 24. <b>You have more money now than when you were getting welfare</b>                            | AGREE | DISAGREE |
| 25. <b>You buy little extras for yourself and your family without worrying about every penny</b> | AGREE | DISAGREE |
| 26. <b>You are pretty sure that you will not need to be on welfare again</b>                     | AGREE | DISAGREE |
| 27. <b>You feel like you are just barely making it from day to day</b>                           | AGREE | DISAGREE |

These next statements are about the welfare program. Again, no statement will say what you actually think, but answer by whether you agree or disagree more with the statement.

- |  |       |          |
|--|-------|----------|
| 28. <b>The welfare program wants to get rid of people, not help them</b>                       | AGREE | DISAGREE |
| 29. <b>The things you had to do to get public assistance were practically no hassle at all</b> | AGREE | DISAGREE |
| 30. <b>Your DSS caseworker treated you with perfect fairness.</b>                              | AGREE | DISAGREE |
| 31. <b>You felt like your DSS caseworker was a part of your family</b>                         | AGREE | DISAGREE |
| 32. <b>The welfare program was more about rules and red tape than about helping people</b>     | AGREE | DISAGREE |
| 33. <b>The money you got from public assistance was more trouble than it was worth</b>         | AGREE | DISAGREE |

Here are some questions about jobs:

34. Are you now working at a job that pays you money?

NO



YES

34a. Have you worked at a job that paid you money since leaving welfare?

NO



YES



**NOT CURRENTLY WORKING**

34b. Now I'd like you to think about the things that stop you from working for pay. What stops you from working for pay? (CHECK ALL MENTIONED; DO NOT READ ANSWERS; PROBE: Anything else that stops you?)

	Mentioned? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Can't find a job	
Don't have skills/experience	
Can't find job that pays enough	
Have no transportation	
Lack child care	
In job training	
In full or part time education	
Physical/Mental Illness or injury (SELF)	
Phys/Ment Illness or injury (care for OTHER PERSON)	
Currently or recently pregnant	
Too young to work	
Too old to work	
Want to stay home with children	
Can't get to a job on time	
Couldn't get along with coworkers or boss	
Laid off from job	
Fired from job	
Quit job	
Lose benefits if working/delay restart benefits	
Other1 _____	
Other2 _____	

**NO JOB SINCE WELFARE**



**SKIP NEXT PAGE**

**HAD JOB, NOT WORKING NOW**



**GO TO NEXT PAGE**

35. (ADJUST WORDING TO CURRENT STATUS) **Do/Did you have more than one job?** (IF NO, WRITE 1 BELOW. IF YES, ASK: **How many jobs do/did you have?** AND ENTER NUMBER BELOW)

Number of Jobs: \_\_\_\_\_

Let me ask you a few things about your job(s)

(IF MORE THAN ONE: **Let's talk about what you think is/was your best job**)

35a. **How many hours per week do/did you work at this job?** (PROMPT: **You don't need to be exact.**)

JOB 1 \_\_\_\_\_ hrs/wk

35b. **How much do/did you get paid for this job?** (PROMPT: **You can tell how much per hour or per week.** CIRCLE UNIT, PER HOUR OR WEEK)

JOB 1 PAY \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per HOUR WEEK

35c. **How long have you worked/did you work in this job?** (PROMPT: **You don't need to be exact.** CIRCLE UNIT, WEEKS OR MONTHS)

JOB 1 TIME \_\_\_\_\_ WEEKS MONTHS

35d. **What is/was your job called?** (PROMPT UNTIL YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT THE JOB IS: **Tell me a little more about what you do/did.**)

\_\_\_\_\_

35e. (IF NOT MENTIONED, ASK) **What business or industry is that?**

\_\_\_\_\_

35f. (IF NOT MENTIONED FOR BUSINESS/ INDUSTRY, ASK) **What city or town is that in?**

\_\_\_\_\_

SAY: **Now, about your other job...**

35g. **How many hours per week do/did you work at this job?**

JOB 2 \_\_\_\_\_ hrs/wk

35h. **How much do/did you get paid for this job?** (CIRCLE UNIT, PER HOUR OR WEEK)

JOB 2 PAY \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per HOUR WEEK

35i. **How long have you worked/did you work in this job?** (CIRCLE UNIT, WEEKS OR MONTHS)

JOB 2 TIME \_\_\_\_\_ WEEKS MONTHS

35j. **What is/was your job called?** (PROMPT UNTIL YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT THE JOB IS: **Tell me a little more about what you do/did.**)

\_\_\_\_\_

35k. (IF NOT MENTIONED, ASK) **What business or industry is that?**

\_\_\_\_\_

35l. (IF NOT MENTIONED FOR BUSINESS/ INDUSTRY, ASK) **What city or town is that in?**

\_\_\_\_\_

GO TO NEXT PAGE



1 JOB, GOTO NEXT PAGE



TWO JOBS



IF THERE IS ONLY ONE NAME ON THE CONTACT SHEET'S LABEL, GO 36b.

IF THERE IS MORE THAN ONE PERSON LISTED ON THE CONTACT SHEET'S LABEL, NOTE THE SECOND PERSON'S NAME AND ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

36a. **Does** (name of other person) **still live with you?**

NO

GO ON TO Q. 36b

YES

GO TO Q. 37 ON THE NEXT PAGE AND ASK ABOUT (NAME OF OTHER PERSON)

36b. **Is there anybody over age 18 who lives with you?**

YES

36c. **How many people over age 18 live with you?**

(RECORD #) \_\_\_\_\_ people

36d. **Is (this/one of these) a spouse, partner or significant other?**

YES

GO TO Q. 37 ON NEXT PAGE & ASK ABOUT JOBS FOR THIS PERSON

NO

SKIP THE NEXT TWO PAGES AND GO TO Q. 39 ON PAGE 14.

37. Does (this person) now work at a job that pays money?

NO

YES

37b. Has (this person) worked at a job that paid money since leaving welfare?

NO

YES

OTHER NOT CURRENTLY WORKING	
37c. Now I'd like you to think about the things that stop (this person) from working for pay. What stops him/her from working for pay? (CHECK ALL MENTIONED; DO NOT READ ANSWERS; PROBE: Anything else that stops him/her?)	
	Mentioned? ✓
Can't find a job	
Don't have skills/experience	
Can't find job that pays enough	
Have no transportation	
Lack child care	
In job training	
In full or part time education	
Physical/Mental Illness or injury (SELF)	
Phys/Ment Illness or injury (care for OTHER PERSON)	
Currently or recently pregnant	
Too young to work	
Too old to work	
Retired	
Want to stay home with children	
Can't get to a job on time	
Couldn't get along with coworkers or boss	
Laid off from job	
Fired from job	
Quit job	
Would lose benefits if working/delay restart benefits	
Other1 _____	

**NO JOB SINCE WELFARE**

**NOT WORKING NOW**

**SKIP NEXT PAGE**

**GO TO NEXT PAGE**

38. (ADJUST WORDING TO CURRENT STATUS) **Does/Did** (this other person) **have more than one job?** (IF NO, WRITE 1 BELOW. IF YES, ASK: **How many jobs does/did** (this other person) **have?** AND ENTER NUMBER BELOW)

Number of Jobs: \_\_\_\_\_

Let me ask you a few things about the job(s)

IF MORE THAN ONE: **Let's talk about what you think is/was** (this other person's) **best job**

38a. **How many hours per week does/did** (this other person) **work at this job?** (PROMPT: **You don't need to be exact.**)

JOB 1 \_\_\_\_\_ hrs/wk

38b. **How much does/did** (this other person) **get paid for this job?** (CIRCLE UNIT, PER HOUR OR WEEK)

JOB 1 PAY \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per HOUR WEEK

38c. **How long has** (this other person) **worked/did** (this other person) **work in this job?** (CIRCLE UNIT, WEEKS OR MONTHS)

JOB 1 TIME \_\_\_\_\_ WEEKS MONTHS

38d. **What is/was** (this other person's) **job called?** (PROMPT: **Tell me a little more about this?**)

38e. (IF NOT MENTIONED, ASK) **What business or industry is that?**

38f. (IF NOT MENTIONED FOR BUSINESS/INDUSTRY, ASK) **What city or town is that in?**

SAY: **Now, about** (this person's) **other job...**

38g. **How many hours per week does/did** (this other person) **work at this job?**

JOB 2 \_\_\_\_\_ hrs/wk

38h. **How much does/did** (this other person) **get paid for this job?** (CIRCLE UNIT, PER HOUR OR WEEK)

JOB 2 PAY \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per HOUR WEEK

38i. **How long has** (this other person) **worked/did** (this other person) **work in this job?** (CIRCLE UNIT, WEEKS OR MONTHS)

JOB 2 TIME \_\_\_\_\_ WEEKS MONTHS

38j. **What is/was** (this other person's) **job called?** (PROMPT: **Tell me a little more about this?**)

38k. (IF NOT MENTIONED, ASK) **What business or industry is that?**

38l. (IF NOT MENTIONED FOR BUSINESS/INDUSTRY, ASK) **What city or town is that in?**

GO TO NEXT PAGE

1 JOB, GOTO NEXT PAGE

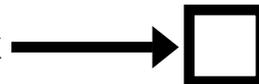
TWO JOBS

39. (ALL RESPONDENTS) **Next, I will read a list of benefit programs and types of support and I'd like you to tell me whether you or someone in your home gets this right now. (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)**

**Is anyone in your home currently getting** (read item)?

	✓
<b>Food Stamps</b>	
<b>Medicaid</b>	
<b>Child care assistance</b>	
<b>Child support from a child's parent</b>	
<b>Social Security</b>	
<b>SSI, Supplemental Security Income</b>	
<b>Money from any retirement or pension fund</b>	
<b>WIC Supplemental Nutrition benefits</b>	
<b>School lunch program</b>	
<b>Summer feeding program for children</b>	
<b>Payments for doing foster care</b>	
<b>Military veterans' medical benefits</b>	
<b>Workers' Compensation</b>	
<b>Unemployment benefits</b>	
<b>Vocational or Technical College Services</b>	
<b>Vocational Rehabilitation Services</b>	
<b>Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services</b>	
<b>Mental health services</b>	
<b>Fuel assistance</b>	
<b>Rent subsidy or public housing</b>	
<b>Free housing from a parent or other relative</b>	
<b>Help in paying bills from family or friends who live with you</b>	
<b>Help in paying bills from family or friends who do <u>not</u> live with you</b>	
<b>Gifts of money from family or friends</b>	
<p><b>Can you think of something I didn't mention? (IF YES, INDICATE BY RECORDING ANSWER BELOW. PROBE: Anything else?)</b></p> <p>Other1 _____</p> <p>Other2 _____</p>	

IF RESPONDENT NOT GETTING ANY OF THE ABOVE, CHECK THIS BOX



I'd like to ask you about medical coverage.

40. Do you or other people who live with you have some kind of health insurance that will pay all or some of the medical bills? Insurance includes Medicaid.

YES  
↓

NO  
↓

40a. **What kind of medical coverage?** (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY; DO NOT READ ANSWERS; PROBE: **Any other coverage?**)

FOR EACH CHECKED AS "HAVE" ASK:  
**How many people under 18 years old are covered?**  
**How many 18 years or older are covered?**

	Have <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	# under 18	# 18 up
Medicaid	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
Medicare	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
CHAMPUS, Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____
Private insurance	<input type="checkbox"/>	_____	_____

40b. (IF SAYS PRIVATE INSURANCE) **Is this insurance from an employer, do you pay for it all yourself, or what?** (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Employer pays all or part of premium	<input type="checkbox"/>
Self-pay all or part	<input type="checkbox"/>
Absent parent pays all or part	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other pay ( <b>Who is that?</b> ) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>

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**There are some benefits that people can continue to get even if they are no longer on welfare. I need to ask if you know about these. First,**

- |  |           |            |
|--|-----------|------------|
| <b>41. Did you know that you may continue to get Food Stamps after leaving welfare?</b>                          | <b>NO</b> | <b>YES</b> |
| <b>42. Did you know children may continue to get Medicaid after leaving welfare?</b>                             | <b>NO</b> | <b>YES</b> |
| <b>43. Did you know that adults who leave welfare to work may continue to get Medicaid?</b>                      | <b>NO</b> | <b>YES</b> |
| <b>44. Did you know that you may get assistance to pay for child care if you leave welfare to work at a job?</b> | <b>NO</b> | <b>YES</b> |

46. **Finally, I want to ask a question about why you are no longer on welfare. What do you say are the reasons that you no longer get welfare?** (DO NOT READ ANSWERS; CHECK ALL THAT APPLY; PROBE: **Anything else?**)

	√
Got a job	
Earned too much money	
Got transportation and that was all needed to work	
Got training/education, then got job	
Got child care and that was all needed to work	
Got married/now living with partner/father of children	
Spouse/partner got job	
Too much money, <u>not from jobs</u>	
Child support income pushed income over the limit	
Non-cash resources over the limit	
Change in household members, lost eligibility	
Time limit expired for benefits	
Moved out of state	
Didn't want to give information	
Did not want to identify father of children	
Did not want DSS involved in child support	
Not willing to go through training/education	
Could not complete training/education	
Late in supplying information	
Missed FI appointment	
No transportation – could not meet FI requirements	
No child care – could not meet FI requirements	
Had a problem with caseworker	
Does not know why case was closed	
DSS did not tell me that I needed to do something	
Could not/would not do job, did not like job	
Considers self unable to work	
Requirements too much hassle	
Simply did not want to be on FI	
Quit for reasons of pride/dignity	
FI did not provide enough money	
Saving eligibility for the future, didn't want to use it up now	
Other1 _____	
Other2 _____	

**Those are all the questions I have. Thank you for your help.**

**END TIME FOR INTERVIEW: \_\_\_\_\_**

INTERVIEWER COMMENTS: Record any events that may have affected the interview.

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